patels. It is therefore suggested that such local itinerant traders may be exempted from taxation, the outsiders or foreigners such as Labbes and other itinerant traders alone being taxed.

Reply of Government.—The rules of 1902 provide for this matter and the Deputy Commissioners will be asked to enforce them rigidly.

SUBJECT No. 150.

Reduction of rates of fines in the malnad districts under the Cattle Trespass Act.

Mr. Shop Siddegowda, Manjarabad Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—The rates of fines in the malnad districts under the Cattle Trespass Act were enhanced when the coffee industry was in a flourishing condition. Owing to the depression of the industry, the price fetched by the sale of cattle will not realize the amount of fines imposed thereon. The rates of fines as also the feeding charges may be reduced and made uniform as elsewhere in the State, as such reduction does not prevent holders of lands from seeking their remedy in other ways for loss caused by the stray cattle.

Reply of Government.—This matter has only been recently investigated and cannot be revised. The rates are not unduly heavy. They are necessary for the protection of the estates.

SUBJECT No. 151.

Absence of provision for diluvium in Revenue Rules of 1901.

Mr. Sasal Thimmegowda, Tumkur Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—In the Revenue Rules of 1901, provision regarding concession to raiyats in cases of diluvium has not been made, thereby causing loss to raiyats. It is therefore prayed that raiyats may be allowed some concession in such cases.

Reply of Government.—Section 47 of the Land Revenue Code provides for such cases. Individual cases of hardship, if any, may be brought to the notice of the Deputy Commissioner.

SUBJECT No. 152.

Qualifications for the new shekdars.

Messrs. Abdul Khalik of the Chikmagalur Municipal Board, and Ramanuja Iyengar, Gubbi Taluk Members were absent, but Vasudeva Rao spoke.

Summary of discussion.—(*a*) It has been ordered that all candidates applying for shekdari posts should have passed the Matriculation Examination. This rule has the effect of debarring the backward classes from the only branch of Government service open to them.

If the Lower Secondary Examination be made the standard for some years more, it would by degrees prepare them to come forward and have a chance to serve until they are in a better condition to compete with those who have had better educational attainments.

(*b*) Requests that particular attention may be paid to the qualifications of nominees for shekdari in accordance with the newly framed rules.

Reply of Government.—No revision of the present order is called for. Government can always deal with exceptional cases in a special manner. The Mahomedan community have had sufficient time given to them and they